

PATENT HES 98.0078U1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| <u>s</u> | SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION I | DISCLOSURE | STATEMENT | |
| For: | UNIVERSAL CEMENTING E | • | Examiner: | Unknown |
| Filed: | October 20, 1998 |) | | |
| Serial No.: | 09/175,664 |) | Group Arc | Unit: 3625 |
| Applicants: | Harold O. Treece |) | Croup Art | Unit. 2625 |

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

The following documents are known to Applicants or Applicants' attorneys and are submitted for the Examiner to consider in the above-captioned application.

U.S. PATENTS

- U.S. Patent No. 3,616,850 issued on November 2, 1971 to Lyle B. Scott.
- U.S. Patent No. 4,246,967 issued on January 27, 1981 to Monty E. Harris.
- U.S. Patent No. 5,437,330 issued on August 1, 1995 to Louis M. Gambertoglio.
- U.S. Patent No. 5,533,570 issued on July 9, 1996 to Steven G. Streich et al.
- U.S. Patent No. 5,722,491 issued on March 3, 1998 to Bobby L. Sullaway et al.
- U.S. Patent No. 5,813,457 issued on September 29, 1998 to Richard L. Giroux et al.

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

French Patent No. 2 663 678 published on December 27, 1991 to Henri Buisine Paul.

European Patent No. 0 371 576 Al published on June 6, 1990 to Brock W. Watson et al.

European Patent No. 0 498 990 Al published on August 19, 1992 to Brock W. Watson.

European Patent No. 0 697 496 A2 published on February 21, 1996 to Brock W. Watson et al.

European Patent No. 0 774 564 A2 published on May 21, 1997 to Dick A. Murray et al.

European Patent No. 0 869 257 A2 published on October 7, 1998 to John C. North.

Copies of the aforementioned references and Form PTO-1449 are submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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GP 3623672

PTO/SB/21 (6-98)
Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0039
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box \rightarrow $|_{+}$ Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Application Number 09/175,664 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date 1998 October 20, **FORM** First Named Inventor Treece, Harold O. (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Group Art Unit 3625 Examiner Name Unknown Total Number of Pages in This Submission 90 Attorney Docket Number HES-98.0078U1 **ENCLOSURES** (check all that apply) Assignment Papers After Allowance Communication Fee Transmittal Form (for an Application) to Group Appeal Communication to Board Fee Attached Drawing(s) of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group Amendment / Response Licensing-related Papers (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) After Final Proprietary Information and Accompanying Petition Petition to Convert to a Affidavits/declaration(s) Status Letter Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Additional Enclosure(s) Extension of Time Request Change of Correspondence (please identify below): Address Supp. IDS, Form 1449 Terminal Disclaimer Express Abandonment Request and references Small Entity Statement Information Disclosure Statement Request for Refund Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Remarks Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Craig W. Roddy

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Individual name

Signature

Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

of Harold O. Treece

inventor(s)

Universal Cementing Plug

title of invention

OR

Group Art Unit: 3625
Examiner: Unknown

In re application of:

Serial No.: 0 9 /175,664 **Filed:** October 20, 1998

For Universal Cementing Plug

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 CFR 1.97(b))

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed: (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application; (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last." 37 CFR 1.97(b).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8a)

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(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of Filing or Before Mailing of First Office Action [6-3]—page 1 of 2) NOTE: The "filing date of a national application" under 37 CFR 1.97(b) has two possible meanings. Where the filing is a direct one to the United States Patent & Trademark Office, the filing is defined in 37 CFR 1.53(b) as "the date on which: (1) A specification containing a description pursuant to § 1.71 and at least one claim pursuant to § 1.75; and (2) any drawing required by § 1.81(a), are filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in the name of the actual inventor or inventors as required by § 1.41." 37 CFR 1.97(b)(1). On the other hand, an international application that enters the national stage occurs when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.494 or § 1.495. 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) requires the filing of the following: (1) the national fee; (2) a copy of the international application, unless already sent by the International Bureau, and an English translation if filed in another language; (3) amendments under PCT Article 19, with a translation into English if made in another language; (4) an oath or declaration; and (5) a translation into English of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language. 37 CFR 1.97(b)(2).

IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 CFR 1.97(b).

- NOTE: "No certification or fee is due when the filing is made within the above time period. It is advisable to ensure that no Office action has been mailed if the disclosure statement is delayed until after three months from filing.
- NOTE: "An information disclosure statement will be considered to have been filed on the day it was received in the Office, or on an earlier date of a mailing if accompanied by a properly executed certificate of mailing under 37 CFR 1.8, or Express Mail certificate under 37 CFR 1.10. An Office action is mailed on the date indicated in the Office action." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).
- NOTE: "The term 'national application' includes continuing applications (continuations, divisions, continuationsin-part) so three-months will be measured from the actual filing date of an application as opposed [sic] to the effective date of a continuing application." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).
- NOTE: "An action on the merits means an action which treats the patentability of the claims in an application, as opposed to only formal or procedural requirements. An action on the merits would, for example, contain a rejection or indication of allowability of a claim or claims rather than just a restriction requirements (37 CFR 1.142) or just a requirement for additional fees to have a claim considered (37 CFR 1.16(d)). Thus, if an application was filed on Jan. 1 and the first Office action on the merits was not mailed until six months later on July 1, the examiner would be required to consider any proper information disclosure statement filed prior to July 1." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

WARNING: "A petition for suspension of action to allow applicant time to submit an information disclosure statement will be denied as failing to present good and sufficient reasons, since 37 CFR 1.97 provides adequate recourse for the timely submission of prior art for consideration by the examiner." Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63).

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY

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(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of Filing or Before Mailing of First Office Action [6-3]—page 2 of 2)